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LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

Medical Officer of Health - Herbert Newsome, M.B., B.S.
Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector - G.K. Foster, M.S.I.A., A.I.W.E.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector - B. Barker, M.S.I.A., A.R. San. I.
Housing Assistant - W.H. Green.
Housing Inspector - M.M. Anderson.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Long Ashton Rural District Council.

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the health and sanitary condition of the district during the past year. The information therein is, as far as possible, in conformity with the requirements of the Minister of Health as laid down in Circular 28/46 dated February 11th, 1946.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area:- 46,515 acres.
Population (Census 1931):- 20,378
(Registrar General's estimate to the middle of 1946):- 23,170
Number of inhabited Houses (end of 1946):- 6,761
Rateable Value:- £180,496.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate:- £733.10. 3.

There are no important changes to note as regards the social conditions and general characteristics of the area.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

| | | M. | F. | Total. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births:- | Legitimate.... | 188 | 194 | 382 | Birth rate (per 1,000 of the estimated population):- 17·2 |
| | Illegitimate.. | 11 | 6 | 17 | |
| | Total | 199 | 200 | 399 | |

| | | M. | F. | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Still Births:- | Legitimate.... | 3 | 2 | 5 | Still Birth rate (per 1,000 live and still births):- 12·3 |
| | Illegitimate.. | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | |
| | Total | 3 | 2 | 5 | |

| | M. | F. | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deaths:- | 142 | 122 | 264 | Death rate (per 1,000 of the estimated population:- 11·3 |

Deaths from Puerperal causes:- Nil.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:- Total deaths 10 (all legitimate

Death rates of Infants under 1 year of age:-
" " " all infants per 1,000 live births..... 25·06
" " " legitimate infants per 1,000 live births..... 25·06
" " " illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live birth..... Nil

Ages of deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Under 1 week.... | 8 |
| 1 to 4 weeks.... | Nil |
| 1 to 6 months... | 1 |
| 6 to 12 months.. | 1 |
| Total | 10 |

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... Nil
" " Cancer (all ages)..... 40
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)..... Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)..... 1

The total number of births(399) is well above the total for 1945(334)
The birth rate (17·2) is higher than in 1945(15·2)
The birth rate for England and Wales this year is 19·1.

The total number of deaths(264) is lower than last year (288)
The death rate (11·3) is also lower than last year (12·8)
The death rate for England and Wales this year is 11·5

The infant mortality rate (25·06) is again very low, though higher than in 1945(17·9)
The infant mortality rate for England and Wales is 43·0.

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tuberculosis (all forms) | 11 | Ulcer of stomach and deudenum | 3 |
| Pneumonia (" ") | 11 | Appendicitis | 2 |
| Bronchitis | 15 | Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | 1 |
| Influenza | 5 | Other digestive diseases | 8 |
| Other respiratory diseases | 4 | Nephritis | 11 |
| Cancer (all forms) | 40 | Premature birth and congenital diseases | 8 |
| Heart diseases | 64 | Suicide | 1 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 9 | Road traffic accidents | 2 |
| Intercranial vascular lesions | 44 | Other violent causes | 5 |
| Diabetes | 2 | All other causes | 22 |

## PREVELANCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Notifiable Diseases.

| Disease | Notifications. | Removals to Hospital. | Deaths. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet fever. | 10 | 10 | Nil |
| Diphtheria. | 4* | 3 | Nil |
| Erysipelas. | 6 | 1 | Nil |
| Pneumonia | 28 | 5 | 11 |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | 3* | 3 | Nil |
| Dysentery | 1 | - | Nil |
| Encephalitis | 2 | 2 | Nil |
| Puerperal pyrexia | 2 | 1 | Nil |
| Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Enteric fever | 1 | 1 | Nil |
| Measles | 7 | 1 | Nil |
| Whooping Cough | 59 | 2 | |
| Totals | 133 | 30 | 12 |

*Three of the cases notified as diphtheria proved not to be that disease. One was tonsillitis and two were Vincent's Angina. This is not unusual as Doctors are asked to notify cases in which the diagnosis is doubtful. One case notified as cerebro-spinal fever proved to be tonsillitis with suspicious cerebral symptoms. One case of severe chicken-pox was removed to Hospital as a possible case of smallpox. Another case of chicken-pox was removed to Hospital with the complication of appendicitis as it could not be admitted to a General Hospital for non-infectious cases. A case of glandular fever and one of cow-pox which are not notifiable diseases, were also removed

to Ham Green Hospital for treatment for the same reason. There were very few cases of Measles this year and a moderate amount of Whooping Cough. Apart from cases of Pneumonia and one case of Poliomyolitis there were no deaths from notifiable infectious diseases.

## Diptheria Immunisation.

Immunisation of all children under 15 years of age is provided free of charge and children under 5 years (school age) are dealt with by private medical practitioners, the prophylactic material being supplied, and a fixed fee paid to them, by the County Public Health Authority. Children over 5 and under 15 years of age are dealt with by the County School Medical Officer. It is greatly to be desired that all children should be immunised before school age, if possible as soon as, or a little before they attain the age of one year. They should also have a reinforcing dose shortly before starting school life. The number of children that have been immunised in this area during this year is as follows:-

| School Children. | Under School Age. | Total |
|---|---|---|
| 36 | 177 | 213 |

The number of children immunised in this district to date is approximately 3238.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

| | Notifications. | | Removals to Sanatoria | | Deaths. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| Respiratory | 7 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Non-Respiratory | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | 2 |

### Notifications and deaths in age periods.

| Age Periods | Notifications. Pulmonary M. | Notifications. Pulmonary F. | Notifications. Non-Pulmonary M. | Notifications. Non-Pulmonary F. | Deaths. Pulmonary M. | Deaths. Pulmonary F. | Deaths. Non-Pulmonary M. | Deaths. Non-Pulmonary F. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1st year | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 1 to 5 years | | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 5 to 15 years | | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| 15 to 25 years | 3 | 3 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 25 to 35 years | 2 | 3 | | | 2 | | | |
| 35 to 45 years | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| 45 to 55 years | | | | | 1 | | | |
| 55 to 65 years | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| 65 and over | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Totals | 7 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

The number of notifications of all forms of tuberculosis is 22, the same as last year but there have been 10 deaths, which is 6 more than last year. There is still a shortage of sanatorium beds, due, I believe, largely to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient nursing and domestic staff.

Tuberculosis dispensaries for the area are at the Central Clinic, Tower Hill, Bristol and at Clevedon.

There has been no necessity to take action under the Public Health (prevention of tuberculosis) Acts and Regulations 1925.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

A list of the Public Health Department's staff is given at the commencement of this report. Laboratory facilities are provided by the County Authority at the County Hall, Taunton, and for certain urgent cases at the Bristol Public Health Laboratory, Whatley Hall, Bristol 8. Hospital treatment for cases of notifiable diseases is provided at Ham Green Hospital by arrangement with the Bristol Authority. There is no Maternity Hospital accommodation in this area, and there is great need of this. If some arrangement could be made with the Bristol Authority for cases from this area to be taken in to the Southmead Hospital, Bristol, it would relieve the situation.

There is no change to report in such matters as ambulance facilities, nursing in the home, treatment centres and clinics or Hospitals, public or voluntary.

Legislation in the area is also unchanged.

## WATER SUPPLY.

1. (a) The Water Supply of the area has been generally satisfactory in quantity but a few private wells are of doubtful purity.

   (b) There has been no appreciable shortage of water.

2. Thirty-five samples of water were taken and examined at the County Laboratory. The results of the bacteriological examination of the piped water supplies is:-

Yatton Parochial Supply.

Three samples of the water going into the supply after chlorination were satisfactory. One sample of untreated water showed slight contamination.

Winford Parochial Supply.

Four samples of untreated water were satisfactory.

Weston-in-Gordano Supply.

Two samples of untreated water were satisfactory.

Bucklands Batch Supply, Nailsea.

Four samples of untreated water were examined, three were satisfactory and one slightly contaminated.

Lodge Lane Supply, Wraxall.

Of two samples taken, one was satisfactory and the other badly contaminated.

Chemical Analyses.

One sample was taken from the source of the proposed temporary piped supply to Clapton-in-Gordano village. This showed the water to have plumbo-solvent action otherwise it was fairly satisfactory for use as a public water supply. An analysis was also made of the borehole supply at the Dundry Council houses. This water is very hard but otherwise satisfactory.

3. Plumbo-Solvent Action. (Clapton-in-Gordano Supply).

The use of lead pipe is prohibited and the water is hardened by passage through crushed limestone.

4. Action in respect of Contamination, Dundry.

In view of the contamination of the Church Well which was used by several householders, a piped supply was laid to standpipes in the village from the Council's small borehole supply at the Dundry Council Houses. A warning notice was erected at the Church well.

Clapton-in-Gordano.

In view of the contamination of the Rodwell, a temporary piped supply was laid from springs in the nearby hillside to standpipes in the village and a warning notice was erected at the Rodwell.

Parish Well, Fosse Lane, Nailsea.

This parish well was found to be badly contaminated and arrangements were made with the Bristol Waterworks Company for a main extension along this road.

Lodge Lane Supply, Wraxall.

This private supply from the coal measures was found to be badly contaminated and the owners took action to prevent the contamination at the source.

Bucklands Batch Supply, Nailsea.

Samples showed this private supply to be slightly contaminated. The owner was able to remove the contamination by cleaning the storage tank.

5. Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains and by means of standpipes is as follows:-

| | Area in Acres | Approximate Population at 31/12/46 | No. of Houses. | No. of Houses supplied direct from mains. | No. of Houses supplied from Standpipes. | Percentage of Population supplied direct from mains. | Percentage of population supplied from standpipes. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abbots Leigh | 2260 | 706 | 159 | 142 | - | 88·5 | - |
| Backwell | 2929 | 1937 | 545 | 386 | 26 | 69·7 | 4·7 |
| Barrow Gurney | 2064 | 332 | 99 | 30 | 8 | 30·3 | 8·0 |
| Bishopsworth | 796 | 2427 | 626 | 590 | 20 | 92·7 | 3·1 |
| Brockley | 1148 | 138 | 53 | 43 | - | 81·1 | - |
| Clapton-in-Gordano | 1355 | 177 | 61 | 7 | 20 | 11·4 | 32·7 |
| Dundry | 2897 | 846 | 241 | 13 | 24 | 5·3 | 9·9 |
| Easton-in-Gordano | 1765 | 2122 | 732 | 623 | 46 | 85·6 | 6·3 |
| Flax Bourton | 630 | 190 | 62 | 51 | 6 | 80·5 | 9·4 |
| Kenn | 830 | 262 | 66 | 25 | - | 37·2 | - |
| Kingston Seymour | 2652 | 240 | 59 | 2 | 1 | 3·3 | 1·6 |
| Long Ashton | 4190 | 2548 | 838 | 791 | 19 | 93·1 | 2·2 |
| Nailsea | 2866 | 2651 | 745 | 442 | 25 | 58·3 | 3·3 |
| North Weston | 1063 | 1077 | 461 | 35 | 245 | 7·4 | 52·3 |
| Portbury | 2845 | 418 | 126 | 68 | 6 | 53·5 | 4·7 |
| Tickenham | 1629 | 603 | 188 | 152 | 4 | 80·6 | 2·1 |
| Walton-in-Gordano | 908 | 236 | 95 | 31 | - | 31·4 | - |
| Weston-in-Gordano | 708 | 123 | 39 | 13 | 14 | 32·5 | 34·9 |
| Winford | 3340 | 1032 | 284 | 133 | 33 | 46·4 | 11·5 |
| Wraxall | 4125 | 1796 | 455 | 274 | - | 82·8 | - |
| Yatton | 5602 | 2914 | 827 | 781 | 27 | 93·8 | 3·2 |

Post War Schemes.

No large water supply schemes or extensions of mains were carried out during the year, but several schemes are in course of preparation and negotiations are in progress with private water undertakers for supplies and mains extensions in various parishes.

The Council's post-war proposals set out in order of priority, are:-

| Priority. | Scheme. | Estimated cost 1946 prices. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | YATTON. New borehole, pumping plant, extension of service reservoir and pumping station to Council's Yatton Parochial supply. | £15,100 |
| 1 | EASTON-IN-GORDANO. Extension of main by Portishead Water Company to Haberfield | £1,320 |
| 1 | KENN. Extension of main from Rural District Council Yatton supply towards Kenn Court Farm. | £1,327 |
| 1 | KINGSTON SEYMOUR. Extension of Rural District Council Yatton supply to Kingston Seymour village. (1939 estimate) | £14,000 |
| 1 | BACKWELL AND WRAXALL. Extension of main by Bristol Waterworks Company to Backwell Common and Lodge Lane. | £6,099 |
| 2 | WINFORD. Extension of main to Rural District Council Winford supply to Harpers' Batch and Hanging Grove. | £1,901 |
| 3 | DUNDRY. Provision of mains to Dundry for bulk supply from Bristol Waterworks Company | £15,000 |
| 4 | NAILSEA. Extension of main by Bristol Waterworks Company, West End and The Grove. | £9,318 |
| 5 | ABBOTS LEIGH. Extension of main by Bristol Waterworks Company to Blackmoor Road and Pill Road. | £2,303 |
| 6 | BARROW GURNEY. Extension of main by Bristol Waterworks Company to Barrow Hill and district. | £5,606 |
| 7 | CLAPTON-IN-GORDANO. Extension of main to village by Portishead Water Company | £7,000 |
| 8 | NORTH WESTON. Provision of main supply by Portishead Water Company to replace standpipe supply to Redcliffe Bay area | £7,125 |

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No new sewers were laid during the year and no works or improvements carried out.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is nothing fresh to report regarding the streams and rhynes in the area.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The district is free from smoke nuisances and no complaints were received.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

With the commencement of a monthly collection of house refuse in the parishes of Kenn and Kingston Seymour, the whole of the district now has a collection of house refuse by contract, at no less frequency than once a month.

The Council were successful in obtaing the lease of a dry and deep disused quarry at Barrow Common, Barrow Gurney, for the disposal of refuse by controlled tipping. The quarry has been fenced and a full-time attendant is employed.

## HOUSING.

### Houses to be erected by the Council.

The Public Health and Housing Committee have been very fully occupied in acquiring sites and obtaining tenders etc., in connection with the erection of new permanent houses under their post war programme.

At the end of the year the position was as follows:-

| Parish. | Houses completed. | Houses under construction. |
|---|---|---|
| Bishopsworth | 2 | 10 |
| Easton-in-Gordano | - | 40 |
| Long Ashton | 6 | 8 |
| Nailsea | 22 | 18 |
| Yatton | - | 4 |
| | 30 | 80 |

Site works are under construction on the Backwell, North Weston and Winford sites.

### Houses erected by Private Enterprise.

At the end of the year the position was as follows:-

| Parish | Houses or Bungalows completed. | Houses or Bungalows under construction. |
|---|---|---|
| Abbots Leigh | 1 | - |
| Backwell | - | 13 |
| Bishopsworth | 24 | 24 |
| Dundry | 1 | 1 |
| Easton-in-Gordano | 1 | - |
| Long Ashton | 5 | 13 |
| Nailsea | 4 | 3 |
| North Weston | 1 | - |
| Tickenham | - | 1 |
| Winford | - | 2 |
| Wraxall | 2 | 1 |
| Yatton | 24 | 16 |
| | 63 | 74 |

Housing Accommodation by Conversion of existing buildings. (Local Authority).

A small country mansion known as Brockley Hall, Brockley, was converted by the Council into thirteen flats.

63 temporary dwellings have been provided by the conversion of buildings lately used as an American Army Hospital at Tyntesfield, Wraxall, and a further 34 dwellings were in course of conversion at the end of the year. It is anticipated that approximately 150 temporary dwellings will eventually be provided on this estate.

Housing Accommodation by conversion of existing buildings, etc. (Private Enterprise).

Additional units of housing accommodation were provided by conversion or adaptation, conversion into flats etc., as follows:-

| | Additional Units. |
|---|---|
| Adaptation and conversion of Army huts | 5 |
| Conversion of one house into two houses | 2 |
| Conversion into self-contained flats | 13 |
| Conversion of buildings into dwelling houses | 4 |
| Total | 24 |

Re-building of houses destroyed by enemy action.

Four houses were re-built during the year by private owners on a cost of works basis.

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

Work was proceeding on the reconditioning of seven cottages acquired by the Council at New Rank, Nailsea.

Housing Needs and conditions of the District.

There is still a big deficiency of houses to meet the demand, the number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year being approximately 800.

With the completion of a number of temporary dwellings at Tyntesfield it was possible to re-house a number of families who were living in unfit houses. The majority of the unfit houses subject to demolition orders and undertakings are temporarily occupied on licence under the Defence Regulations.

Rural Housing Survey.

The survey has proceeded during the year, two male inspectors and one female typist being engaged almost full-time on the work. This survey entails the inspection and recording of defects of some 2805 houses of a rateable value of £16 and under.

By the end of the year a total of 1719 houses had been inspected and the survey was proceeding in the parish of Long Ashton.

The position at the 31st December, 1946, is summarised as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of houses inspected and recorded. | 1719 |
| Satisfactory in all respects | 433 |
| Houses with minor defects | 259 |
| Houses requiring repair or structural alteration | 757 |
| Houses unfit for human habitation | 232 |

The location of the unfit houses is as follows:-

| Parish. | No. of Unfit Houses. |
|---|---|
| Yatton | 45 |
| Nailsea | 17 |
| Abbots Leigh | 3 |
| Easton-in-Gordano | 62 |
| Long Ashton | 29 |
| Wraxall | 24 |
| Kenn | 7 |
| Kingston Seymour | 10 |
| Tickenham | 17 |
| Walton-in-Gordano | 10 |
| Dundry | 8 |
| Total | 232 |

Occupation of Military Camps by Squatters.

Four disused Military Camps viz:- Abbots Leigh, St. George's, Easton-in-Gordano; Martcombe, Easton-in-Gordano; and Weston Lodge, Weston-in-Gordano; were occupied by squatters in the early part of September. The number of families involved was 75 with a total of 248 persons.

Essential sanitary services were provided and the management of the Camps was undertaken by the Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects ... ... ... ... ... ... 1304
(under Public Health or Housing Acts)

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ... 1353

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932... ... ... ... ... 1021

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ... 1064

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... ... 163

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ... ... 662

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

(a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ... ... 21

(b) Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action ... ... ... Nil

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(A) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners ... ... ... ... ... Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... ... ... ... Nil

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ... 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners... ... ... ... ... 1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... ... ... ... ... Nil

Inspection of Dwelling Houses. (Continued)

(C) Proceedings under Section 11, 13 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... ... ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... ... | Nil |
| (3) (a) Clearance orders made ... ... ... ... | Nil |
| (b) Number of houses involved ... ... ... | Nil |
| (4) Clearance orders confirmed ... ... ... ... | Nil |
| (a) Number of houses involved ... ... ... | Nil |
| (b) Number of houses demolished ... ... ... | 2 |
| (c) Number of houses to be demolished ... ... | 32 |

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit ... | Nil |

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1936.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Inspections. | No. of complaints received during the year..... | 84 |
| | No. of houses, premises, etc., inspected..... | 2769 |
| | No. of houses disinfected, or to which disinfectants were supplied..... | 30 |
| | No. of visits to cases of infectious disease.... | 26 |
| | Tuberculosis:- Disinfections 15, Visits 17 | |
| | No. of cases of bedding disinfected..... | 24 |
| | No. of scabies baths arranged for infected persons..... | 40 |
| | No. of verminous premises cleansed..... | 2 |
| Sewers. | No. of new sewers laid down..... | 2 |
| | No. of sewers repaired or cleansed..... | 4 |
| | No. of visits to sewage works and installations. | 130 |
| House drains. | No. of existing houses connected to sewers..... | 18 |
| | No. repaired or cleansed..... | 10 |
| | No. of drains re-laid..... | 6 |
| | No. of new piped drains laid..... | 121 |
| Earth closets Water closets and cesspools | No. of privies abolished..... | - |
| | No. of cesspools re-constructed or cleansed..... | 12 |
| | No. of new cesspools..... | 19 |
| | No. of cesspools abolished..... | 18 |
| | No. of new water closets..... | 174 |
| | No. of new water closet pans or repairs..... | 21 |
| | No. of new earth closets constructed..... | - |
| | No. of earth closets converted into water closets.... | - |
| New dwellings. | No. of new permanent houses completed and occupied... | 93 |
| | No. of new houses supplied by Company's water... | 91 |
| | No. of new houses supplied by wells or cisterns. | 2 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Water Supply. | No. of samples of water taken for examination.... | 37 |
| | No. of existing houses supplied with Company's water..... | 15 |
| | No. of new wells..... | - |
| | No. of wells or cisterns cleansed or repaired.... | 6 |
| | No. of contaminated wells closed..... | 3 |
| | No. of dairies, cowsheds and milkshops inspected. | 150 |
| | No. of bakehouses inspected..... | 18 |
| | No. of slaughterhouses inspected..... | - |
| | No. of factories inspected..... | 14 |
| | No. of statutory notices served..... | 5 |
| | Ministry of Health inquiries held..... | - |
| | Legal proceedings taken..... | 1 |

## SCHOOLS.

There is no change in the number of local schools, and there is nothing fresh to report under this heading.

## FOOD.

The following food was condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption:-

| Meat. | | Fish. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Canadian Bacon | 15 lbs. | Hake | 91 lbs. |
| Stewed Steak | 21 tins. | Pilchards | 4 tins. |
| | | Salmon | 6 tins. |

### Tinned Foods.

| | |
|---|---|
| Baked beans | 7 tins. |
| Jam preserve | 2 tins. |
| Condensed milk | 39 tins. |
| Tinned carrots | 5 tins. |
| Tinned pears | 1 tin. |
| Tinned damsons | 1 tin. |
| Tinned peas | 1 tin. |

### Slaughter Houses.

The eleven slaughter-houses, nine of which are registered and two licensed, are still out of use, centralised slaughtering taking place at the Weston-super-Mare public abattoir. There are no knackers' yards in the area.

## MILK.

Up to the 30th June 33 samples of accredited milk and 50 samples of Tuberculin tested milk were taken on behalf of the County Council and forwarded to the County Laboratory for examination. The County Council took over the sampling of designated milk from 1st July. 15 samples of mixed milk were also taken and examined at the County Laboratory for the presence of tubercle bacilli, which was found in one sample.

Six applications for permission to enter into the liquid milk market were investigated and reported upon to the War Agricultural Committee, five being recommended for sanction.

Twelve cowsheds were reconditioned during the year.

No. of milk producers on the Register.....348
No. of distributors only..... 83
No. of producer retailers..... 60
No. of producers of Tuberculin Tested milk..... 47
No. of producers of Accredited milk..... 26
No. of licences for T.T. bottling establishments..... 3
No. of licences for Accredited bottling establishments.. Nil.

To summarise - the sanitary condition and health of the district continues to be as satisfactory as can be expected in these difficult times. As this report shows, a very considerable part of the time of the Public Health Department's staff is taken up by Housing work, and seems likely to do so for some years.

It has not been possible to carry out the demolition of condemned dwellings, most of them being still occupied under temporary licences, a condition likely to continue for some time yet owing to the continued housing shortage.

Delay in the provision of permanent and temporary housing accommodation is largely due to shortage of labour and materials and for the same and other reasons it has not been possible to proceed with a number of water supply and sewage disposal schemes planned for several villages. This district, however, compares very favourably with most other rural districts in the number of permanent and temporary houses provided and under construction, a notable feature being the Tyntesfield housing estate.

I conclude my report by tendering my thanks to your Council for it's continued confidence and the consideration always shown to me in the performance of my duties and to the officers of the Health and other Departments for their very willing help and co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

HERBERT NEWSOME,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
FLAX BOURTON,
Near Bristol.

September, 1947.